ancing are constantly reviewed and necessary action taken.

PRIVATISATION OF TELCOM. DEPTT.

1494. SHRI S. VIDULTHALAI VIRUMBI : WiU the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any pioposal under Government's consideration to encourage thp privatisation programme in the Telecom. Department; and

(b) if so, the details ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION? fSHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

POST OFFICES IN GRAM PANCHAYATS IN GUJARAT

2495. SHRI AHMED MOHAMED-BHAl PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Gram Panchayats in the State of Gujarat art without facility of Post Office;

(b) if so, whether Central Government have decided to set up a post office in every Gram Panchayat dutmg 1993-94; and

(c) if so, by when, and the steps taken to achieve the target fixed, if any, in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) There are 5183 Gram Ptochayata without post offices in Gujarat.

5183 Gram Panchayat is without Post post Office during 1993-94 in Giam Panchayats of Gujarat. Priority is being given to those Gram Panchayats where poet office facility is not available. Post offices are progressively opened taking into consideration the various prescribed norms as well as availability of resources, land allocation of target by the Planning Commission.

NEW TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR TRANSMISSION OF DATA

2496. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be plyeased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to install a high speed paclcet switch, VAST (Very Small Aperture Terminal), telecommunications system for the transmission of data via the KU bank transponder through INTELSAT leased from Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd.;

(b) if so, what are the details in this reaard;

(c) what are the names of places where VAST is likely to be started; and

(d) by when these are likely to be strrt-ed and at what cost ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) te (di The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

POSTAL DIVISION IN EACH REVENUE DISTRICT IN ORISSA

2497. SHRI SANTOSH *KVUAK* SAHU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Postal Divisions in Orissa, the area covered [serviced by them and when they were formed

(b) the details of action taken or pro posed to *be* taken to set up Posal Divi sions in each Revenue District of Orissa in the near future and how the newly created revenue districts are being ser-

viced or are proposed to be serviced by postal net-work; and

(a) the details of mail motor service rvailablelproposed to be made available for the postal network in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF ST ATR OF THE MINISTRY OF COMIVRJNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : fa) A statement is laid on the Table of the House *(see* below)

(bl There is no proposal, at present, to set up Pasta! Divisions in the newly created Revenue Districts in Orissa. The newly created Revenue Districts are being adequately served by the existing Postal Divisions.

fc) Mall Motor Service is available. in Rourkela Cuttack and Bhubaneshwar. The Department has, at present, no proposal for creation of any new Mail Motor Service Unit for Orissa Postal Circle.

STATEMENT

Name of the Postal Division	Revenue District (s) covered	Area served (sq. km.)	Date of opening
1. Aska	Portion of Ganjam Distt.	4325.00	1-6-85
2. Balasore	Balasore	3706.30	1-2-53
3. Berhampur	Gajapati District & portion of Ganjam Distt.	8202.30	16-6-78
4. Bhadrak	Bhadrak (Bhadrak Revenue Sub Division including portion of Keonjhar Distt.)	2786.90	1-8-80
5. Bhubaneswar	Bhubaneswar Sub Division of Khurda Distt. and some portion of Puri Distt.	2537.11	26-1-77
6. Bolangir	Bolangir & Sonepur Distts.	8836.00	2-1-60
7. Cuttack city	Cuttack	2012.33	25-9-80
8. Cuttack North	Jajpur and Kendrapara Distts. & Portion of Cuttack Distt.	5682.00	28-12-79
9. Cuttack South	Jagatsinghpur Distt. & Athgarh & Banki Sub Divisions of Cuttack Distt.	3447.67	25-9-80
10. Dhankanal	Dhenkanal & Angul Distts.	10826.00	28-12-79
11. Kalahandi	Kalahandi & Nuapada Distts.	11772.00	14-11-88
12. Keonjhar	Keonjhar Distt.	8303.00	15-9-66
13. Koraput	Koraput, Malkangiri, Nowrangpur & Rayagada Distts.	27020.00	1-12-71
14 Mayurbhanj	Mayurbhanj Distt.	10416.40	23-12-72
15. Phulbani	Phulbani Distt.	10230.28	28-10-72
16. Puri	Portion of Puri & Khurda Distts. and entire Nayagarh Distt.	8375.71	15-2-55
17. Sambalpur	Sambalpur and Distts. and part of Bolangir District.	17516.00	15-6-1911
18. Sundargarh	Sundergarh District	9712.00	2-3-70